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In This Issue

Murray Masterton
on
THE
NEW ZEALAND
TOURING TEAM

*

SATURDAY,
JULY 24, 1954

CALLING ALL SOCCER FANS!

● Here's another Argus "first"—The Argus Medal for the best and fairest soccer player of 1954! Awarded in the same way as the V.F.L.'s Brownlow Medal, The Argus Medal will be the first of its kind in local soccer history.

● Watch the progress of your club's star players in The Argus. Progress votes appear on Mondays with full sporting coverage.

ACHTUNG, SOCCER-FREUNDE!

● Der "ARGUS" ist wieder einmal die erste Zeitung in Australien, die dem hiesigen Soccer-Sport etwas einzigartiges bietet. Die Plakette fuer den besten und fairsten Soccer-Spieler, der Spielzeit 1954. Diese Auszeichnung wird in der selben Art verliehen als die "Brownlow" Plakette der Victorian Fussball Vereinigung. Lesen Sie daher den "ARGUS" aufmerksam und verfolgen Sie den Fortschritt Ihres Lieblingsfussballer.

● Jeden Montag bringen wir Ihnen einen vollen Soccerbericht und die letzten Stimmenergebnisse im "fairsten und besten Fussballspieler" Wettbewerb.

CHIAMIAMO I TIFOSI DEL CALCIO!

● Qui c'è un'altra "Prima" dell'Argus—la Medaglia Argus per il migliore e più corretto giocatore di calcio del 1954. Conferita in modo uguale alla V.F.L. Brownlow Medal, la Medaglia Argus sarà la prima del suo genere nella storia locale del calcio.

● Leggete la classifica dei giocatori del vostro club nell'Argus. I voti appariranno ogni Lunedì.

SOCCER NEWS

The Official Organ of the
VICTORIAN AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Vol. 7, No. 17. SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1954

WORLD CUP AFTERTHOUGHTS

At least once every year our old friend, Harry Hopman, finds time from his tennis to send us notes and cuttings on European soccer. This year he has sent us a sheaf of cuttings on the recent World Cup competition in Switzerland.

We cannot publish them all, but as many as space permits. We reprint herewith:

FOOTBALL STYLES COMPARED

The South Americans put their hands to their hearts with an extravagant sweep, saying: "We feel this game and we play as we feel."

That is certainly true so far as the artistic Uruguayans are concerned, for though basically their defence is founded on the bolt system — right-back as defence at centre-half, left back as attacking wing-half, wing-half marking the winger, a loose attacking centre-half, etc. — the formation is by no means rigid. They extemporise more so than do the Hungarians.

Yet the Hungarians, for all their more static defence of centre-half formation, by a mixture of short and long ground passing, have evolved a most perfect attacking game. And the accent really is on attack, with a sense of teamwork and understanding as its solid foundation.

—The "Observer".

HUNGARIAN ANGER OVER TEAM'S FAILURE
GOVERNMENT ABUSED

Demonstrations which were reported in Budapest outside the State football pool offices against the Hungarian football team's failure to win the World Cup, later became directed against the Government, according to latest reports reaching here from Hungary.

The demonstrators first shouted complaints that they had been swindled, and that the football management had sold out to the Germans, the winners of the cup; later, they turned to shouting abuse against the Government. When this happened the police intervened and tried to make arrests, but were prevented from doing so by crowds estimated at about 15,000.

The returning Hungarian football team is reported to have left the train before reaching Budapest, and Mr. Sebes, in charge of the team, Puskas, the captain, against whom public indignation was greatest, and the player, Troth, stayed behind in Switzerland.—The "Times".

—Continued on page 6

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Would all clubs take note that as the financial year of the Association is drawing to a close it is necessary to finalise all outstanding debts. I refer to the accounts of "Soccer News", the Annual Ball, and standing charges of this Association.

All clubs have received debit notes for the amounts owing, and I would appreciate finalisation of same as soon as possible.

—A. KERR, Hon. Treasurer, V.A.S.F.A.

EDITORIAL

All communications re Soccer News must reach The Editor, V. J. M. Dixon, 2 Cowper Street, Sandringham, S.8, by first post on Monday.

The Dockerty Cup is now whittled down to eight teams. Out from the competition last week went Wilhelmina — no match for all-conquering Juventus — Brighton, Dandenong Rovers, Bayswater, Maribyrnong (the "giant-killers"), George Cross, Moreland and Box Hill.

Footscray, who put "paid" to Brighton's account, had most of the game, but were most inefficient in front of goal. Brighton, on the other hand, when they did get near goal, were very dangerous.

An unusual feature of the quarter-finals is the large proportion of minor division clubs. Two teams from Second Division, Yallourn and Maccabi, and Sandringham City from Third Division, are still holding on though, with toughening opposition, they will have to fight hard to get further.

The draw for the quarter-finals will be found on another page in the V.A.S.F.A. Bulletin.

Three weeks from today, August 14, the New Zealand team will be playing in Melbourne. Two games will be played here, one on Wednesday, August 11, v. Victoria, and the First Test Match on Saturday, August 14. All League games for that date are postponed.

The New Zealand team is expected to be a strong one, for, as in Victoria, soccer has made great strides in both Islands since the war.

The usual panic is on in the home of another code and all clubs are combining to make sure that "Our Wicked Foreign Game" shall not use any of their hallowed ovals. Nevertheless, it would seem that the difficulty has been overcome and arrangements for a suitable ground are almost finalised. Further details later.

It now seems certain that soccer will return to Olympic Park next season, and this time proper amenities will be provided with a huge stand and all "mod. cons." When it is considered what a large percentage of the V.A.S.F.A. income came from Olympic Park, soccer followers will appreciate what a relief this knowledge is to the V.A.S.F.A. Council.

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NEW ZEALAND TOURISTS

By MURRAY MASTERTON (of the "Sun")

Sixteen players were chosen after the annual North v. South Island soccer match at Christchurch, New Zealand, a fortnight ago, to represent their country here in Australia.

The selectors, headed by Gordon Smith, a veteran of New Zealand soccer, seem to have aimed at a nice balance of youth and experience. The youth is all in the forward line and the experience in the defence.

The average age of the team is 26 years, the oldest, goalkeeper Hiddleston, being 35, and the youngest, inside-forward Preston 20.

Not all those who saw the trial game agreed with the selectors in their choice. For the first time in four years the South Island won the game, 4-3, yet nine North Islanders go into the side and only seven South Islanders.

Perhaps the fact that the match was played at English Park, Christchurch, in the South Island, before a South Island crowd, had something to do with the disagreement, for New Zealand crowds are just as partisan as crowds here in Melbourne.

According to press clippings from New Zealand the most unfortunate man to miss selection was South's 'keeper, Harry Langley. He is 24, and a reasonably newcomer to big soccer. He has played for his province, Canterbury, and for South Island before, and although he gave a magnificent exhibition on the day he was passed over in favour of the more experienced and much older Hiddleston.

Preston, however, as South's reserve, played only at the last moment, and was included in the touring team purely on the day's play.

Those chosen to make the trip were:—

Goalkeeper: H. Hiddlestone, from Wellington. He is stockily built, weighing 11.5 although only 5 ft. 6 ins. tall. He had plenty of experience of soccer in Scotland before he went to New Zealand, and is safe under any amount of pressure. He is also noted for his long, and accurate, clearing kicks.

Backs: T. Cooper, of Auckland, was chosen without taking part in the trial game, for which he was unavailable. He is well-known in New Zealand as a solid back, and has represented the country before, on the New Caledonia tour.

R. Morrison, who captained South Island as centre-half, has been chosen for the tour as a back. Just short of 6 ft. this sturdy Southlander weighs 12 stone and has played for New Zealand before. He is 27.

M. Best, 25-year-old Aucklander, played a sound game for the North Island, recovering well at all times. He has played for Auckland province since 1949, and for the North Island since 1952. He is 5 ft. 9 ins., weighs 11.3.

Halves: J. Hunter, who will captain the side, started his football with Arthurlie, a Scottish junior club, and signed for Chelsea just after the war as a First Division man. He also played for Canterbury City in the Kent League. He is a master of positional play and farms out the ball with great

SNOWS *"for men who care what they wear"*

accuracy. Since emigrating to New Zealand Hunter has played for Mangakino in the Rotorua competition. He is half an inch short of 6 ft., 32 years old and touches 13 stone.

P. Traynor, an Aucklander, has been chosen as left-half. He is 34, 5 ft. 9 ins., and goes 12 stone. He first played for Wellington province in 1945, and when he moved to Auckland in 1950 he played for the representative team there. He is an army P.T. instructor, and is fast and fit.

K. Gibson is another North Islander, from Wellington, and will play as right-half. He is short and solid, weighing 11 stone at 5 ft. 6 ins. Wellington has included him in the representative side on many occasions and on each he has earned his position by a never-tiring game.

D. Charlton, an Englishman, has been chosen from the South side to play right-half. He is 5.9 and 11 st. 3, and has experience of Second Division English football. He has proved a tireless worker in the Canterbury representative half-line, and is expected to do the same over here.

N. Westerveld is the other left-half. This big 22-year-old Dutchman is a classy player with an uncanny anticipation. He toured England with Holland's V.V.V. Club and is expected to be a crowd-pleaser. He played for Otago in his first season's soccer in New Zealand.

Forwards: D. Kendrick, Auckland's speedy winger, will fill that position here. He is big, too, just 6 ft., and yet agile enough to be really dangerous within shooting range. He crosses with accuracy, kicks a good corner and always plays at top speed. He is the second youngest in the team, being 21.

F. Benge, Wellington's inside-left, started playing senior soccer at 18. That was three years ago, and since then he has scored many goals. He is a star at back-tackling, and a half must be very spry to take the ball from him.

K. Olley, from Canterbury, is another 21-year-old. He usually plays centre-forward, but took the inside-left position in the trial game. Olley is short and stocky, but manages to get up to the ball with the best of them. He should be one of the top goal-getters on the tour, being a powerful shot with either foot.

R. King will be centre-forward, the position he has taken for Auckland for the past two seasons. He is always alert and always ready to shoot. King's rise through the ranks of soccer has been steady and he is now considered by far the best centre-forward in the Dominion. He is 26.

Allen Smith, 27-year-old, Glasgow-born inside-right, plays for Nelson and South Island. He played against the Australians in 1951 as a member of the South Island minor associations' team. Smith's soccer started in Glasgow, where he represented the city as junior on four occasions. He played for Glasgow A.T.C. during the war, and after it for Thornliebank amateurs and Ashfield juniors. Over the past two seasons he has averaged three goals a game.

A. Preston, of Wellington, made the team solely on his display in the trial game. He was selected as reserve for the North Island, but took the field as an inside-forward. He is tall and well built, and at 20 has two years' senior soccer behind him with the Wellington University side, and has been a 'Varsity Blue for soccer for the past two years.

C. Steele, from Southland, is a very speedy winger. He played most of his early football in the West Coast minor association, but moved to Southland, and in the better play there, came on quickly. He is now 24 and has earned the reputation of being a deadly shot with either foot. He can play equally well on either wing, and is a good reserve centre-forward.

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V.A.S.F.A. BULLETIN

FIXTURES — LEAGUE

The following matches have been arranged for Saturday, August 7, and Club Secretaries are requested to make necessary arrangements:—

Third Division: F.N.D. v. Williamstown (from 15/5/54).

Fourth Division: Wilhelmina v. Victorian Colts (from 14/8/54).

Third Division Reserves: Dandenong v. Coburg (from 5/6/54). Williamstown v. Sandringham (from 10/7/54). Moorabbin City v. Fairfield (from 14/8/54).

Fourth Division Reserves: Bayswater v. Heidelberg (from 14/8/54).

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE

All clubs please note that the Brighton Soccer Club has withdrawn from this League and all fixtures arranged with Brighton should now be treated as byes.

TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR MATCHES

The Metropolitan (Melbourne) Tramways Board, 616 Little Collins St., Melbourne, telephone No. MB 1721, has notified the Association that arrangements will be made for transport on any day required if clubs notify them within seven days. Any club which may require extra transport provided for its supporters should contact the above number and ask for the Traffic Section.

FIXTURES — CUP TIES

Matches arranged for Saturday, August 7, are as follows:—

Dockerty Cup — Fourth Round: Juventus v. Sandringham City. Footscray City v. Maccabi. J.U.S.T. v. Polonia. Hakoah v. Yallourn.

Harry Armstrong Cup (Reserve Cup) — Third Round: Brighton v. Moreland (replay). **Fourth Round:** South Yarra v. Hellenic.

—S. BEATON, Secretary, V.A.S.F.A.

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Our Cover

PLATEO (Juventus outside-left) nearly turns himself inside-out. Just how many ways can a man twist himself at one go?

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World Cup Afterthoughts — Continued

WORLD CUP IN RETROSPECT — ATTACK THE KEYNOTE

The last three weeks, which enclosed the last pages of the World Cup here in Switzerland, produced everything for which any follower of football could have wished. There was the finest artistry from the Hungarians, Uruguayans, and Brazilians; there was the fast, direct, and intelligent game of the Germans, backed by stamina and will power, which won the crown; sportsmanship, too, to offset the one black scar of the tournament when the passion of the Hungary-Brazil match reached frenzied heights; wintry rain finally to contrast the torrid heat; and at the last, as a surprise denouement, the dramatic downfall of the vaunted Hungarians when the world seemed to be at their feet.

Though Germany have now become the champions of the world — and they are due to play at Wembley before Christmas — few can doubt that the three best footballing sides among the nations are Hungary, Uruguay and Brazil. If the competition, as a whole, showed us this, it also pointed to one important fact that should not be overlooked in the British Isles. All the great foreign sides live by attack. Their whole game is based on progressive lines and the extent of the success of forwards generally can be measured by the fact that the 25 matches played recently produced a healthy crop of 140 goals.

THE LESSONS

England, surviving to the last eight, did reasonably well and went out with their colours flying against the talented Uruguayans, but only one of her players, Matthews, could be said to be in a world class, though Finney, too, one knows, has a similar touch of quality about him which, alas, he never really showed on the tour. What are the lessons for British football? They are the old ones. The Continentals and South Americans have shown that to be supreme at the game the ball must be completely mastered. They are artists at all the fundamental skill, the very grammar of football.

—The "Observer".

CUP HYSTERIA IN GERMANY
NATIONALIST SPEECHES

Bonn, July 9.

The aftermath of Germany's success in the world football championship at Berne on Sunday, is giving some thoughtful Germans cause for worry.

A foreign observer has to make allowances for the apparent excess of rejoicing. Germans collectively have felt starved of success in the last 10 years. Here was an innocent, and yet a brilliant, national success in the field of sport to which no one could take exception. So, when the German football team set off home from Berne, all West Germany prepared to receive its members with music, flowers, silver medals, speeches by Ministers and lord mayors, and gargantuan meals.

The biggest occasion so far has been their arrival on Tuesday at Munich. Bavarians love a celebration. The whole city took the afternoon off to cheer them through the streets. Schools, factories and offices closed.

SILVER LAUREL

On July 17 they are to fly to Berlin, where the Federal President is to invest them with the silver laurel at a ceremony in the Olympia stadium

—Continued on page 13

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HOME and AWAY

By REX BENSON

NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS — SO THEY SAY.

Why pick on that particular "Sporting Globe"? I once bought one, but now only read it free in the foyer of the "Herald" office. One Wednesday this year it contained **nothing** on soccer, not even mixed in with the score of a cribbage-hand in the information column.

LOLLIPOPS

It used to be the practice to paint Rugby Union goalposts in thick, alternate bands of black and white. England players were rather surprised to find the goalposts in Hungary painted in close red and white diagonal stripes. They called them "lollipops" before the game, but had no wind left at the end to make further comment.

AS OTHERS SEE IT

Reading the report in the "Sun" after the J.U.S.T. and Juventus game made me think that I must have been at another game other than the one that I was trying to describe. The other 5000 bar one must have felt the same.

TICKET TRICKS

Readers may remember earlier comments on devious ways and means of getting hold of a Cup Final ticket in England. The case cited was of an Australian Rules official who was mistaken for a soccer representative from "down under". A more legitimate means is adopted by the National Coal Board — they give tickets to miners hewing most coal, as a form of bonus. Then there is always the sudden rush of enthusiasm to join St. John's Ambulance Brigade, in the hope of being able to see. But all these methods pale beside the latest one which tricked Sir Stanley Rous into handing one over.

A "gentleman" wrote from a prison in the West Country, the address not known, and stated that he would be a guest of Her Majesty until just before the Final, and would very much like to attend, as he always attended the event when he was at liberty to do so.

MISAPPREHENSIONS THAT EXIST

Was asked during the game at Heyington by a Hakoah supporter if a penalty rebound could be shot back into goal by a player other than the original kicker. Klassic had just parried, in fine style, the spot-kick taken by Morrow, who then seized on the ball as it ran loose, and netted. Klassic protested at the time, but as it was Morrow who scored, the question did not really arise. The salient point, of course, is that if Morrow had hit the woodwork without Klassic touching the ball, anybody but Morrow could have played the ball. He would have been guilty of playing the ball twice.

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An added point is that if the kick had been taken in extra time being added, Klassic's anticipation would have been rewarded.

ANOTHER TREBLE TO ALEMPEJIVIC

Box Hill did not bring off any surprise against Hakoah, and Alempejivic set the pattern of the game when he scored within a few minutes.

Box Hill was on top for a brief period in the second half, and should have scored more than once. Unfortunately, McCluskey, when right through on two occasions, could not put the same powder into his shots with the heavy ball as did Rice and Sutherland. What a magnificent 30-yard free kick from the latter that rocketted into the net only to be disallowed on the grounds of offside. That meant that one of the forwards was just as guilty as putting through his own goal.

Klassic afforded some comedy by gravely starting to measure out the 12 yards to the fatal spot, until Referee Brown ordered him back to the goal-line. Klassic then doffed his cap to the official. His wonderful save from the penalty, to which few goalkeepers would have got even a hand, went unrewarded, but his protest against the goal was mystifying.

Stubbs did not deserve to have the opposing centre-forward score three times against him. He was magnificent in defence, and were points awarded for the game, he could well have merited "best and fairest".

Golesmann played one of his best games on the wing, and now that Hakoah have found a regular goalscorer at centre-forward, he appears to be there to stay. If the forward line can reproduce the interpassing against Juventus, they may break that team's unbeaten record.

The referee took at least one name and it appeared that the offence was committed by word of mouth, which seems a silly way to incur official displeasure.

Tom Jack looked very fit, and it is to be hoped that he will soon be back in the game. Mr. Dockerty was also at the match, the view of the Hakoah supporters being that he was running the rule over one of the finalists.

The crowd was not very big, and I wonder, as the weather was not to blame, whether the increased admission charges are not having some effect.

See the Game of the Week.

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MORELAND v. BRIGHTON

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COUNCIL JOTTINGS

By CHARLES DODD

Mr. Kerr complained that many clubs were not meeting their financial obligations. Various payments, including those for "Soccer News" and Ball tickets, have not been received.

Whilst it is not desired to take action against any club the Council must impress upon every club the necessity of settling its accounts at least once monthly.

OLYMPIC PARK

We now have an assurance from the Minister for Lands that Olympic Park is ours for soccer for the future.

So long as we have this ground we can feel really secure, and with the improvements now being carried out we shall certainly have a ground to be proud of.

The use of the Fitzroy Football Ground has been granted to the Association for the Test Match to be played between New Zealand and Australia on Saturday, August 14.

The thanks of the Association are due to Mr. Clarey, M.H.R., Mr. Smith, Minister for Lands, Mr. Coleman, Minister for Transport and Chairman of the Olympic Park Trustees, and Mr. Shepheard, Minister for Education, for the manner in which they received our deputations and for their efforts on our behalf.

THE DUNKLING SHIELD

Mr. Parker suggested that Schools be given the opportunity to play a "knock-out" competition for the Dunkling Shield.

Mr. Dixon remarked that the time was now very short for such a competition to be arranged.

Final decision was to leave the matter in the hands of the School Soccer Committee to organise the competition.

To Our Friends "The Press"—

WITHOUT THEM WE WOULD BE LOST

Make no mistake about this. Imagine where we would be if we had them against us.

Over the past few weeks I have been closely associated with the "Sun" soccer reporter, and it has amazed me to find out how much time and effort he spends on soccer. Murray Masterton, who writes in these pages, spends up to 20 hours a week on soccer alone for the "Sun".

Mr. Wilshaw, whom we all know, has been writing soccer for the "Globe" and "Herald" for as long as I can remember. Illness now prevents him from taking as keen an interest at the moment as he would like.

Bill Fleming, who writes for the "Argus", is a very keen soccer man, and but for his keen interest we might not have the "Argus" award for "best and fairest".

Quite a good player in his time, too. I can remember him when I was in short pants.

Feeling old, Bill?

Alex Barr is another well known to all of us. As a player Alex has been one of the best, and although he has not been with the "Age" very long, his comments are always looked for with interest.

We know who we are dealing with — men with the game at heart. Give them a go.

POT SHOTS

By "ONLOOKER"

OXYGEN AT HALF-TIME

The Granville (N.S.W.) club, one of the most progressive in Australia, recently administered oxygen to their players at half-time. This practice was also prevalent in England last season. Who is going to be the first club here to try and revitalise their team with a whiff at half-time?

END OF TRANSFER SEASON?

Have you noticed a couple of teams with players in unusual positions, including "On the sidelines" during the last couple of weeks. Is is just the selectors desperately trying to improve the team or would the fact that the transfer season has ended have anything to do with it?

PENNY FOR HIS THOUGHTS

It would have been enlightening to know what Len Young thought of his "proteges" after their exhibition against Polonia Reserves last Sunday. No doubt the Colts will want to forget all about it themselves.

WINTER CONDITIONS AGAINST SUNDAY SOCCER

Hearing of the cancellation of last Sunday's Toorak Park matches due to the condition of the ground seemed funny, especially when you remember that two years ago, after one of the wettest winters ever, the interstate carnival was held at Toorak Park. Certainly the ground was a quagmire, but soccer is a winter game and I doubt if it would have been worse than at Heyington Oval last Saturday.

MATCH OF THE SEASON

Crowd records for soccer at the Showgrounds should be shattered today when Juventus meets Hakoah. Both teams have large followings, also the game should attract most of the soccer public in Melbourne who don't follow a particular team as the result of this match will have the utmost bearing on the league championship. A win to the fine Italian side would assure them of honours. I am not going to attempt to pick the winner of this contest, it looks anybody's game.

WHO WEARS THE PANTS?

Heard a remark by a spectator about the fairer sex at a recent match. He was referring to the number of women at the game wearing slacks. They seem a good idea for this time of the year. Before I find myself writing a social column what about "Soccer News" starting off their page for the women again. I know it was well appreciated by the ladies when Mrs. Rothfield did the job last year until her illness.

[We have asked Mrs. Rothfield, but she says "no". She has her own reasons and won't tell.—Editor.]

FAIREST AND BEST AWARD

With the recent award of a trophy by the "Argus" for the fairest and best player of the season, it is only fair to all concerned that the Council makes sure all fixtures are played. By that, I refer to the cancelled games from earlier in the season which, because of having no bearing on the championship, are sometimes not played. A couple of early fancies for the trophy are Morrie Payne, of South Yarra, and Sid Thomas, of Hakoah, both are consistent players who play the game cleanly. Morrie Payne has a

—Continued on page 12

Learn with Len Young

Soccer Coaching

The eighth of a series of articles by the V.A.S.F.A. Official Coach.

GAME CONDITIONINGS

Earlier on in these coaching articles, I mentioned "Game Conditionings", and I believe this phrase was introduced after it had been pointed out that a weakness amongst players of a team must be analysed by the coach, who then should introduce a skill practice which enables individual attention to be given to the weakness. When he is confident that the players have mastered it sufficiently well, he should then introduce it into a phase common to the actual match. If he is satisfied with their performance, then competition can be introduced against the actual chief performers in the game phase, and so he is bringing the skill nearer to match play. However, there is one final effort he must make to bring the skill practiced almost on a par with actual match conditions. In fact, the players are now put into a soccer game with one difference to that of the normal one. It is conditioned, so that the skill the coach has been building up in strength, must be repeated time after time. Many more times, indeed, than the skill would appear in a normal game, and now let me take as my first example, "Scramble Ball", or you may know it as "Crowding".

Practically every youngster, and quite a number of seniors also, lose their positional function, and join in the chase after a ball, regardless of where this may lead them. Consequently, instead of the inevitable two players in competition for the ball, one sees three, four, and in the case of the young 'uns, many more, all trying to force the leather through a maze of legs and bodies. This, of course, is all against the very principles of "good soccer", and is probably the first thing a coach has to correct. So a game conditioning has been evolved which makes the very hard task of correcting this scramble much more simple, and it is simply this: Before starting the game, two players are placed a certain distance apart, and it is then explained to the remainder that if any two players of the same side are found nearer than this distance, then the man in charge of the game will whistle for a foul against them, and order a free kick for the opposing side.

I consider a reasonable distance for boys up to 15 years of age, 10 yards. The coach must use his judgment as to what distance he will condition a game for more senior players. It is most important that the penalty be exacted on every occasion the rule is violated, for, if a player "gets away" with it once, he will try it again, and the coach is making it very much harder for himself. Should he have less than two full teams, then playing over just half of the pitch, making the centre and goal lines his touch, or side lines, would be preferable.

—Continued on page 12

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BROKEN HILL SOCCER ASSOCIATION

320 Piper Street,
Broken Hill.
June 17, 1954.

TO THE CLUBS AFFILIATED WITH VICTORIA SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Dear Sir,

Z.C.—N.B.H.C. "KNOCK-OUT" CUP

For the past two years this Association has conducted a "Knock-out" Carnival open to all clubs affiliated with a recognised soccer association. Besides local teams we have had teams from all over New South Wales and South Australia, and the Carnival has been a great success and has done much to popularise soccer in Broken Hill.

A Newcastle team, Adamstown, was successful the first year, and last year the winner was a South Coast team, Balgownie.

Prize-money for the Carnival this year is £250, of which the winner will receive £200, and the runner-up £50. The winner also holds for one year a beautiful cup donated by The Zinc Corporation and New Broken Hill Consolidated Limited.

The Carnival is to be conducted on Saturday and Sunday, October 9 and 10, this being the Labour Day week-end in South Australia.

Duration of the games depends on the number of teams competing and a team will need to play three games to enter the final. Each game, except the final, will probably be of 20 minutes each way, with a final of two 30 minute halves.

Clubs competing are required to pay their own travelling and accommodation expenses, but liberal entertainment will be provided free by this Association.

Entry fee is £2/2/-, and we shall appreciate it very much if your club will consider the matter and let us know on or before August 30 next, whether you desire to compete.—Yours faithfully, R. ALAGICK, Secretary.

SOCCER COACHING (continued)

One important detail to remember is to make allowances when play is in either penalty area. Obviously, defenders and attackers, must, of necessity, be much closer here. It can be noted also that by applying this conditioning the coach, by choosing to extend the distance, can get into the players' game "Power Kicking". In other words, presuming the distance ordered is 25, 30, or more yards, obviously the ball has to be really driven with great force to reach its objective. Therefore, two of the most important fundamentals are introduced into the one game.

Pot-Shots — Continued

chance to poll well in the weaker South Yarra team, whilst Sid Thomas has strong opposition in his own team from stars like Rice, Sutherland and Gottesmann. If the award was for the most improved player Sid would walk in. Always a classical player, his game has become much more effective since his association with Hakoah.

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WHAT'S WRONG WITH SOCCER IN VICTORIA

By KEVIN LOTT

I would start by saying that soccer has not improved, on the field or off, in the last ten years.

Our support has increased from a few hundred to several thousand, mainly because of the increase in migration, but don't be fooled into believing otherwise. Facts prove it.

After playing soccer in Victoria for over sixteen years, I am convinced that the future of the game lies in the hands of club committees and the governing body, the V.A.S.F.A.

Lack of organisation by clubs can only bring ruin to the game. I say, without fear of contradiction, that even at this stage when we are reputed to be riding the wave of success, it will happen unless we pull our socks up.

How to avoid this is a major problem that only we as players can solve. How many players carry on as committeemen, or try to put back into soccer what we have learnt and enjoyed? Not many.

How many senior clubs carry juniors? How many clubs are short of seniors? The answer to our problem lies with us!

As a player on the brink of retirement, I offer a little advice to clubs and their players. Don't stand back and hand out destructive criticism to either the association, newspapers, or players.

Get on with the job of playing football, and cut criticism of your club officials and team-mates to a minimum.

And remember, there is still a place in soccer for you when you hang up your boots.

"United we stand, divided we fall", are well-known words — let's not forget them.

★

World Cup Afterthoughts — Continued

on July 18. The footballers will fly back to West Germany on the following day, drive in a string of cars from Frankfurt to Bonn, and be received formally by the Federal Government on its own ground.

Responsible Germans in Bonn are hoping that these occasions will see no repetition of Tuesday night's performance in the Munich Lowenbraukeller. There Dr. Peco Bauwens, the president of the German Football Association, greeted the players and a large company with what can only be called an hysterical nationalist speech.

Dr. Bauwens is said to be a reasonable man in the ordinary way, but on Tuesday his excitement got the better of his good sense. He exhumed **Fuhrerprinzip** and other such words from the vocabulary of the Third Reich. He addressed the 11 innocent footballers as if they had routed a national enemy on a field of battle. Referring with passion to an incident at Berne, in which somebody, it appears, took down the German flag at some stage, Dr. Bauwens related how "our boys" had fought "without an outward flag but bearing the German flag in their hearts"; they had shown "what a sound German, true to his country, could do." He invoked godlike spectators, watching the world football championship from some Germanic heaven.

—The "Times".

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,—There is one soccer law, which, in my opinion, causes more arguments amongst players and referee, spectators, and even between linesman and referee, and I refer to the "off-side" rule. This rule could be altered and a defined area be marked out for off-side, and the clauses "B", "C" and "D" of Law 11 apply inside that area, for the following reasons:—

The "off-side" rule slows up the game. Many attacks are offset by full-backs deliberately setting an "off-side" trap. Also considering clauses "A" and "B" together a player could be given "off-side" almost up to the centre-line. I would suggest, then, that the penalty area, as it now stands, become the "off-side" area with clauses "B", "C" and "D" applying within that area. Considering that 50 per cent. of penalty kicks are missed — that is, no score results — a player would not be getting an undue advantage from over 18 yards out from goal; also, the goalkeeper is not obliged to stand in one spot as when a penalty kick is being taken. The game would be kept more open, as the full-backs would have to remain in position and not be able to score a goal, as I witnessed recently. The forward would be able to see at a glance whether he was off-side, and the referee could decide more easily without having to watch the linesman so much.

The above suggested alteration would result in more definite decisions to games. A draw is a poor conclusion to a game in the main. If I remember correctly a writer in an earlier edition of "Soccer News" said: "Spectators like to see goals scored." Perhaps this is the answer.

This season many appeals have gone out for "old" players to act as referees. A glance at Law Five, Clause "B", is enough to deter many from offering. Under the present set-up, a referee has too much responsibility. If Clause "B" were deleted from his duties, he could apply himself to the game with better results for all concerned. Why not have officials on the touch-line take over the duties of Clause "B"?—Sincerely, R. Peeby.

Dear Sir,—It is regrettable that we have to read the news of the Peninsula Association closing its doors. One club is bad enough, but one Association? Which means a number of clubs, and with them 90 men who have not only put in a lot of time and hard work, but money to keep the game going. Players and supporters are also lost to the game. Why is this? What has happened to cause this major blow to our game? I think the followers of the game should know, and if the powers that be don't then theres hould be an inquiry. Metropolitan followers probably read the report but without concern, as their mecca of the game is safe and sound.

SATURDAY, JULY 31

HAKOAH v. BOX HILL

at HEYINGTON OVAL

I venture to guess the trouble is only where it could be expected, and that is in an area where an Association has been formed and other clubs are affiliated and playing with the V.A.S.F.A. The obvious reason for this trouble is that the best players and potential stars all go to clubs playing in the V.A.S.F.A., and unless something is done it will happen in other parts of the country. The V.A.S.F.A. have the power to avoid these calamities, and until they use some of it the blame can be laid at their door.

—"Country Fan."

POSER

Is it possible for a team to score two successive goals without any opponent touching the ball between these goals being scored? Answer: Yes.

"A" and "B" represent the two teams. "A" kick off, and close to half-time, score a goal. "B" centre the ball and run completely through without any player of "A" touching the ball and equalise. As the ball enters the net the whistle sounds for half-time. On the resumption, it is the turn of "B" to kick off as "A" started the game. "B" again run straight through without any member of "A" touching the ball, and score their second goal. Thus, "B" has scored two consecutive goals without "A" playing the ball in between. Many thanks for a really good "bob's" worth, but would like to see Third Division Reserves table more often.—F. J. Graco.

★

ROSEBUD AND DISTRICT SOCCER CLUB

Dear Sir,—We are having a visit from Brighton and Moorabbin Juniors Under 17 to play on our oval on Sunday, July 25. The kick-off is at 1 p.m., and a team from town is going to play Rosebud after that game. Could something be put over the air? If you can, it would do soccer a lot of good down our way.—Yours faithfully, H. Mitchell.

★

SPECIAL EFFORT

The Association wish to say thank you very much to all clubs who have assisted us regarding donations for Special Effort. Anticipating that all tickets will be returned within a few days, it was decided that the draw take place on Friday, July 23. Results will appear in "Soccer News".

—Frank McIver, Hon. Sec.

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JUNIOR SECTION

ESSENDON UNDER 15

The first team defeated Moorabbin 2-0 in a game marred by a wet ground and played at Moorabbin on July 17. Goals were scored by Tregair, from a centre by the "twins", Glover and Caldow, and by Glover. Mathews left-half), and Rutherford (outside-left) played well.

Moorabbin was unfortunate to lose one of their most effective forwards in the second half — apparently a twisted knee.

The second team was defeated by Brighton, 9-0. Essendon was once again just a couple of players short of a full team. Newcomer, Coldrey, played well.—W. Bradshaw.

VICTORIAN JUNIOR NEWS
By DENIS CHAMBERS

In reply to Sunshine City officials re their Secretary's Open Letter, all boys selected for Under 14 and 15 have been published. Selectors for this grade who were appointed by a general meeting of all clubs, are: Mr. Russ Westley (Brighton Under 17), Mr. Eric Collinson (Hakoah Under 14), Mr. Denis Chambers (Fairfield Under 14). All three of us did not particularly want the job, but nobody else would do it. The Under 14's are under Mr. Westley, as he trains Under 17's. The Under 15's are under Mr. Collinson and myself, as we do not train Under 15's. When boys reported to us we took names and positions. Every boy got a fair trial, and when the selectors had picked out boys who, in their estimation, were the best, those boys were then asked which club they came from. Could any of our readers suggest anything fairer than that? I cannot speak for the other grades, but will publish full details later.

It is a well-known fact in junior football that if the few club-men who are interested enough in juniors, didn't do these executive duties, then no-one would, and for the Under 14 and 15 selectors, I can say we felt snubbed and our sporting instincts hit by Sunshine City's action. I previously wrote in this column the good work that was being done for juniors in the Sunshine area, and still say you're doing a good job. The selectors have so far spent five Sunday afternoons on the job and have not yet finished.

Frankston, who have been in senior ranks for four years, are now coming to light with juniors and, working with Frankston High School, are getting a team going, but what about some Under 14's or 17's?

Looking at the League tables it is noticeable that Brighton head Under 14 and 17, Sunshine United Under 20 and Under 15. Congratulations to these two clubs. If every club could do the same for juniors, then the Junior Association would be far stronger. A Third Division club, Moorabbin, field no fewer than four junior teams. So, what about following these clubs' examples, you senior teams without juniors?

—Continued on page 17

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By JOHN ARLOTT

M. EDELSTON (Reading)

There was an old chestnut of my school days about the little boy sent out to count chickens who came back and declared: "There are twelve — and one that keeps running about so that I can't count it." That boy, at a Reading football match, would count the other twenty-one, but not Maurice Edelston.

Maurice is the busiest footballer in the game. Tutored from extreme youth by his father, the one-time Hull City wing-half who is "Joe" to all the footballing world, he has a footballing brain as near perfection as makes no matter.

Put him down anywhere in the world and he would have a football match under way within hours and would have taught the game by precept to any lyro with average intelligence within days.

He was seventeen and still at school when he was chosen for England in the Berlin Olympic Games soccer tournament of 1936. Before he turned professional, four seasons ago, he had won twelve amateur international caps and had played his way into the full England side in five war-time internationals, as no other amateur had been able to do for twenty years.

It is the quality of footballing intelligence which makes Maurice Edelston an outstanding player. Possessed of the rare combination of a scholarly brain with extreme speed of mental reaction, he thinks three or even more moves ahead, and not all his team-mates have reacted quickly enough to take full advantage of his moves.

It was Joe Mercer who once said to me: "On my game I never minded marking Maurice, though he gives you a good going, because you can usually tell what he is going to do. Off your game, though, he is the worst man in the world to have beating you because he is always doing the right thing and doing it quickly before anyone can cover you, so that all your mistakes show up."

Although the Southern Section of the Third Division is one of the hardest of footballing arenas, Edelston is one of the cleanest players in the game. He never uses the shabbier tricks of football; he simply does not think of them.

He does not, however, shrink from the hefty traffic of the close-marking which Division III metes out to inside-forwards, and, sturdily built, he can take his knocks, get up, and carry on.

Maurice Edelston will be remembered as an inside-forward with sound ball control but no time for elaboration, who saw no point in dribbling when there was a good pass to be made, whose service of the ball was always intelligent, who saw the merit of doing the right thing quickly, who shot or headed hard and without hesitation, and who believed and practised pre-eminently the tenet that good football always pays dividends.

*

Junior Section — Continued

One of the life members of the Junior Association hasn't been in the best of health lately. He is Mr. Wilshaw, and on behalf of all juniors, we hope he soon recovers quickly.

We are sorry to see Jack Olsen having to step down. Very few men have done as much for juniors as Jack. However, his business interests are getting heavier. We hope he hasn't got to drop out altogether.

*

At the last Executive meeting it was decided that all fixtures cease on August 14 and Cup matches will start on August 21. If any of the league premierships are in doubt through this decision, games will be arranged after the Cup matches have been finalised.—Geo. Ellis.

CORNER KICKS

By KEVIN LOTT

APPEAL

Once again I appeal to senior clubs to visit Technical Schools with a view to forming junior sides.

I can assure those people who do, that they will be made more than welcome by sports masters.

Anyone interested could contact myself for further information.

CIRCULATION

For a little rag, we are not doing so bad. I have been told that copies of "Soccer News" are going as far away as England, Scotland, Austria and Hungary.

There are possibly more to add. If so, I would be pleased to hear from those sending them.

TECHNICAL SCHOOL SOCCER

NORTH

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Footscray	7	7	0	0	39	2	14
Preston	7	5	1	1	18	9	11
Box Hill	7	3	1	3	13	20	7
Collingwood	7	2	1	4	9	23	5
Swinburne	7	1	2	4	4	10	4
South Melbourne	7	0	1	6	5	24	1

SOUTH

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Caulfield	7	7	0	0	30	7	14
Oakleigh	7	6	0	1	53	11	12
Brighton	7	2	2	3	22	25	6
Sandringham	7	1	3	2	21	31	5
Richmond	7	0	3	4	10	22	3
Prahran	7	0	2	5	7	42	2

V.A.S.F.A. Coach Len Young's class for School Coaches, which was cancelled, will be resumed Tuesday night next, July 27, 1954, at 7.30 p.m., at the Fitzroy Town Hall.

See the M.S.D. first for

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LIGHTS ON LATROBE VALLEY

Moe United's defeat at Yallourn, Tiger's draw with Sale United, and Morwell's draw with R.A.A.F., give the league leaders a five points lead. Yallourn, fielding its strongest team to date, was in arrears at half time, but finished too strongly for rivals. Moe United, who were without regular players Young, Finn, Church and Hammond — a blow to any club, and two valuable points were lost. Morwell, with six games to play, will have to loose three games to be knocked from top position, while the others would have to win all games for a chance to take the honour. However, on Morwell's form at present, the 1954 championship would seem "in the bag". The unlucky, but improving, bottom team, Sale United, have drawn two and won one in the last three games, and for a first-season club, this enthusiastic team will certainly make a name for itself in future Latrobe Valley soccer.

...

On Friday night, July 23, the L.V.A.S.F.A. and the Central Gippsland Schoolboys' Association will hold a conference to discuss the future of schoolboy soccer in the Latrobe Valley, and it is hoped that some useful purpose will be obtained.

Results of games, Saturday, July 17: Yallourn (3) v. Moe United (2); R.A.A.F. (nil) v. Morwell (nil); Tigers (1) v. Sale United (1).

LEAGUE LADDER AS AT MONDAY, JULY 19, 1954.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Morwell	12	10	1	1	30	7	21
Moe United	13	7	2	4	39	17	16
Tigers	13	5	5	3	21	24	15
A.P.M.	12	5	2	5	20	25	12
R.A.A.F.	12	2	4	6	17	23	8
Yallourn	11	4	0	7	18	29	8
Sale United	13	2	2	9	19	36	6

Games for Saturday, July 24: Moe United v. A.P.M.; Sale United v. R.A.A.F.; Morwell v. Yallourn; Tigers, bye.

SPECIAL EFFORT

The Latrobe Valley Special Effort will definitely be drawn on Friday night, July 23. The Secretary would like to hear from the following Melbourne clubs, who as yet, have not returned tickets. J.U.S.T. (3101-3200); Park Rangers (1501-1600); Geelong (1801-1900); Coburg (1901-2000); Hellenic (2901-3000); Sandringham City ((2701-2800); Williamstown (2601-2700); Peninsula Association (2201-2300); Northern District Association (2301-2400); Maribyrnong Trojans (0671-0680, 0691-0700, 0971-1000); and Heidelberg (1151-2000).

We would like to make known that any person holding a ticket in any of the above groups should read next week's "Soccer News" for final information regarding returned tickets. All prize-winners shall be notified.

—Frank McIver, Hon. Secretary.

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LEAGUE TABLES

AS AT MONDAY, JULY 19, 1954.

FIRST DIVISION

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Juventus	13	9	4	0	40	13	22
Hakoah	12	9	1	2	50	24	19
J.U.S.T.	12	8	2	2	36	22	18
Polonia	12	5	4	3	23	15	14
Brighton	12	6	2	4	33	27	14
Footscray City	12	5	0	7	25	36	10
Moreland	12	4	1	7	34	35	9
Prahran	13	4	1	8	20	34	9
Box Hill	13	3	0	10	28	51	6
South Yarra	13	1	1	11	19	52	3

SECOND DIVISION

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
George Cross	13	10	2	1	14	19	22
Yallourn	13	8	4	1	30	10	20
Sunshine City	13	9	1	3	32	17	19
Park Rangers	13	8	1	4	40	30	17
Sth. Melbourne	13	6	2	5	32	31	14
Maccabi	13	6	1	6	35	36	13
Geelong	13	3	3	7	20	29	9
Preston	13	3	2	8	16	21	8
White Eagles	13	2	0	11	17	44	4
Sunshine United	13	1	2	10	8	37	4

THIRD DIVISION

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Slavia	14	12	1	1	65	12	25
Hellenic	13	11	0	2	52	27	22
F.N.D.	13	10	1	2	40	19	21
Sandringham City	14	6	4	4	35	24	16
Dandenong Rovers	14	7	0	7	32	33	14
Williamstown	14	4	2	8	29	34	10
Moorabbin City	15	4	2	9	32	48	10
Coburg	15	3	4	8	18	49	10
Frankston	15	2	4	9	23	38	8
Fairfield	15	1	4	10	12	43	6

FOURTH DIVISION

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	P.
Maribyrnong	15	11	3	1	45	14	25
Wilhelmina	13	11	1	1	49	12	23
Ukrainia	15	10	2	3	45	17	22
Upper Yarra Dam	14	7	5	2	40	18	19
I.C.I.	15	7	2	6	36	27	16
University	13	5	1	7	16	48	11
Heidelberg	14	4	1	9	26	54	9
Nunawading	15	1	1	13	9	59	5
Victorian Colts	3	2	0	1	9	6	4

Match I.C.I. v. Ukrainia, 17/7/54, abandoned after 62 minutes play. Maribyrnong v. Slovakia, 14/8/54, points awarded to Maribyrnong. Victorian Colts v. Slovakia, 19/6/54, points awarded to Victorian Colts.

—S. Beaton, Secretary V.A.S.F.A.

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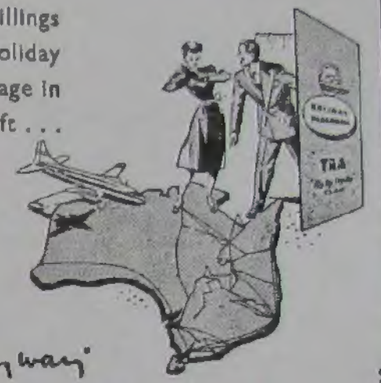

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